

Health News Release

For immediate release: May 24, 2013 (13-070)

Contact: Kelly Stowe, Communications Office 360-236-4022

Donn Moyer, Communications Office 360-236-4076

Massage therapist's license suspended on charges of sexual misconduct

OLYMPIA — Charges of sexual misconduct have led state health officials to immediately suspend the license of Kennewick massage practitioner Donald A. Brandsma, MA00021370. The statement of charges says the misconduct took place with two of Brandsma's patients.

Brandsma allegedly placed his upper body on a patient's back while kissing her and putting his hands down her shorts. He then stated that he had an erection.

Brandsma is also alleged to have kissed a second patient and touched her breast.

Brandsma cannot practice in Washington until the charges are resolved. He has 20 days to respond to the charges and to ask for a hearing.

The documents can be seen online by clicking "Look up a health care provider" on the Department of Health website; copies can be requested by calling 360-236-4700. That's also the number to call to file complaints against health care providers in Washington.

The Department of Health protects and promotes public health, safety, and welfare in Washington by regulating the competency and quality of health care providers. The agency establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to people in Washington.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, <u>find us on Facebook</u> and <u>follow us on Twitter</u>.